GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:239
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2006
STANDARD OF THE QUALITY OF MID- DAY MEAL SCHEME
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

a) whether any standards have been laid down for the quality of mid-day meal being served to children under Mid-Day Meal Scheme in schools all over the country;

b) if so, the details thereof;

c) whether the Government has received complaints about the inferior quality of the meals provided under the Programme;

d) if so, the details thereof; and

e) the steps taken to enforce quality of the meals served thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 239 asked by Shri Raghunath Jha regarding Standard of the Quality of Mid-Day Meal Scheme for reply on 7.3.2006.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Guidelines of Mid-Day Meal Scheme stipulate that food served to children should conform to hygiene, wholesomeness & variety, and should be of minimum 300 calories with 8-12 grams of protein.

(c) & (d): Stray incidents of inferior quality/unhygienic food have been reported in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Orissa, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Delhi.

(e): Government has been continuously exhorting States to give full attention to the issue of quality & regular supply of meal. A new initiative has been launched, w.e.f 1.1.06 to mobilize mothers to take turns to oversee preparation of meal & feeding of children.